

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
JOINT MAG REGIONAL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND
BUILDING LEASE WORKING GROUP MEETING

October 16, 2006
MAG Offices, Cholla Room
302 North 1st Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS ATTENDING

* Mayor James M. Cavanaugh, Goodyear, Chair	Mayor Keno Hawker, Mesa
Mayor Mary Manross, Scottsdale, Vice Chair	* Mayor Thomas L. Schoaf, Litchfield Park
# Mayor Joan Shafer, Surprise, Treasurer	Councilmember Peggy Neely, Phoenix
Mayor Steven M. Berman, Gilbert	

BUILDING LEASE WORKING GROUP MEMBERS ATTENDING

Mayor Keno Hawker, Mesa, Chair	Alana Chavez for Frank Fairbanks, Manager,
* Mayor James M. Cavanaugh, Goodyear	City of Phoenix
* Mayor Ron Clarke, Paradise Valley	

PARTNERING AGENCIES ATTENDING

* Steve Olson, Arizona Municipal Water Users Authority	David Boggs, Valley Metro Rick Simonetta, Valley Metro Rail
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* Not present

Participated by videoconference or telephone conference call

1. Call to Order

The Executive Committee and Building Lease Working Group meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Mary Manross at 12:04 p.m. Vice Chair Manross stated that Mayor Shafer was participating in the meeting by telephone. She noted that item #5H, the addendum to the agenda, which was previously transmitted, was at each place. Vice Chair Manross stated that public comment cards were available for those members of the public who wish to comment. She noted that transit tickets were available from Valley Metro for those using transit to come to the meeting. Parking validation was available from MAG staff for those who parked in the parking garage.

2. Call to the Audience

Vice Chair Manross noted that according to MAG's public comment process, members of the audience who wish to speak are requested to fill out the public comment cards and stated that there is a three minute time limit. Public comment is provided at the beginning of the meeting for items

that are not on the agenda that are within the jurisdiction of MAG, or non-action agenda items that are on the agenda for discussion or information only. Vice Chair Manross stated that no public comment cards were received.

3. Update on the Regional Office Building

Denise McClafferty, MAG Management Analyst, updated members on activities since the last Executive Committee/Building Lease Working Group meeting. She said that staff met with the Directors of the partnering agencies to begin preliminary discussions on the agreement with the agencies. This meeting resulted in a meeting with the agency attorneys to determine the structure of the agreement and roles and responsibilities of the partners.

Ms. McClafferty stated that staff also met with Diane Brossart from Valley Forward that morning to update her on the project and to determine any interest in tenant space. Ms. Brossart indicated that their lease expires September 2007. Ms. McClafferty stated that Valley Forward would need 2,000 square feet in the new building and the price would need to be within their budget. They currently pay approximately \$15 per square foot. Ms. McClafferty stated they would also need some assurance of the use of meeting space for their board meetings, which are held monthly at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesdays. She said that Ms. Brossart will update her board on this project this month.

Ms. McClafferty reported that the Kaye/Ryan team and MAG staff have met with Don Keuth, Phoenix Community Alliance, and Brian Kearney, Downtown Phoenix Partnership to update them on the proposed schematic plans. At this meeting, RNL delivered the presentation given at the September Executive Committee/Building Lease Working Group meeting.

Ms. McClafferty stated that Kaye/Ryan has retained Larry Lazarus to help manage the city process. She said that Kaye/Ryan and Mr. Lazarus are scheduled to meet with Andie Abkarian and Reid Butler of the Roosevelt Action Association on October 23rd and will provide the presentation given at the September Executive Committee/Building Lease Working Group meeting.

Ms. McClafferty reported that partnering agency staff have been meeting with FoRM Design to review and finalize floor plan layouts. In addition, partnering agency IT/AV staff and consultants have also been meeting to finalize requirements for the building.

Ms. McClafferty stated that since the last meeting, staff has requested Kaye/Ryan to perform further design, engineering and estimation of specific tenant improvements and equipment for the tenant space, conference center, and TV studio. Ms. McClafferty stated that Ryan Companies has agreed to perform these functions and has solicited proposals from consultants for this work.

Ms. McClafferty stated that a flow chart was prepared to help explain the process and at what point we would like to exercise our option to enter into a purchase agreement with Kaye/Ryan. Copies of the flow chart were provided. She explained that this flow chart shows the initial \$200,000 indemnification authorized in June, which was for the schematic architectural/engineering phase. Next, MAG staff requested that the scope of services include FF & E, interior design and estimating services. Ms. McClafferty noted that today, Ryan is requesting additional indemnification of \$80,000 to include Audio Visual/IT and TV Studio consultants in the scope of

services. She advised that this total indemnification of \$280,000 will result in a schematic design package including plans, specifications and a detailed estimate by approximately mid November. Once the detailed estimate is received, the option exists to enter into a purchase agreement with Kaye/Ryan based on the detailed estimate. This could happen approximately in December.

Ms. McClafferty stated that there are several other options to refine the schematic package. For example, if the detailed estimate comes in too high, there is the option of the partnering agencies reevaluating the costs. She explained that another option is to enter into an additional indemnification and/or agreement with Kaye/Ryan to refine the schematic packet and move to design development phase, which would provide a design development package including plans, specifications and a Guaranteed Maximum Price. Ms. McClafferty noted that at this point there is the option of entering into a purchase agreement with Kaye/Ryan, which could be some time in February or March 2007.

Mayor Hawker asked for clarification of the level of detail received for the \$80,000. Dennis Smith stated that if the Executive Committee approved the \$80,000, it would get to a detailed estimate from Kaye/Ryan. After receiving the detailed estimate, a pro forma would be developed. This would be presented to the partnering agencies and provide a best estimate of cost. Mr. Smith stated that if more detailed information is desired beyond the detailed estimate, it would cost approximately \$500,000 dollars to get to the next level, which is the design development stage.

Mayor Hawker asked what is the range to arrive at the best estimate at the schematic stage. Jay Tubbs stated that in terms of \$80,000, it is additional work they were requested to provide in order to develop a schematic package. He stated that it gives a solid basis to take to the subcontractor community to get real pricing. Mr. Tubbs noted that some areas of the design are not fully developed and explained that each phase provides more detail. We work through the design process, a schematic set is then completed, followed by the development documents, and then construction documents. The ability to provide better information improves with a more detailed document package. He noted that because estimates are based on schematic drawings, exact details, such as the carpets, final finishes, etc are not available.

Mayor Hawker asked how much additional detail would be received from the “if necessary” box on the flow chart (see Attachment 1). Mr. Tubbs replied that the increase in detail would be significant. He said that the design development set of the plans and specifications about a 75 to 80 percent complete. The schematic set is about a 50 percent complete set.

Mayor Hawker asked if the \$80,000 would not only provide a cost to the partnering agencies, but also give them a timeline. Mr. Tubbs replied that was correct—price and schedule go hand-in-hand.

Mayor Hawker asked if we could still move forward or not move forward after the \$280,000 point. Mr. Smith stated that we could go to the partners with a best estimate and tell them the cost as compared to leasing. He added that they will be unable to make a decision without those numbers.

Mayor Hawker asked the partnering agencies if they thought the extra \$80,000 is a necessary ingredient to the decision. Dave Boggs, RPTA Executive Director, replied that he thought it was a good decision and he would be reluctant to go to the next step without it.

Mayor Hawker moved to authorize the Executive Director to indemnify Kaye/Ryan for an additional amount of \$80,000 for the design, engineering, purchase and installation of specific tenant improvements. Councilmember Neely seconded.

Mr. Smith noted that one caveat is that staff will work out the actual indemnification language with Kaye/Ryan.

The vote on the motion carried unanimously.

4. Adjournment of the Building Lease Working Group

There being no further business, the Building Lease Working Group meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

5. Approval of the Executive Committee Consent Agenda

Vice Chair Manross stated that public comment would be heard before action was taken on the consent items. Each speaker is provided with a total of three minutes to comment on the consent agenda. After hearing public comments, any member of the Committee can request that an item be removed from the consent agenda and considered individually. Vice Chair Manross stated that agenda items #5A through #5H were on the consent agenda. Vice Chair Manross noted that no public comment cards had been turned in.

Vice Chair Manross asked members if they had questions or comments on any of the consent agenda items.

Alana Chavez clarified that the RFP mentioned in the September 18, 2006 minutes has not yet been released and is anticipated to be released later this month.

Councilmember Neely moved to approve consent agenda items #5A through #5H. Mayor Hawker seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

5A. Approval of the September 18, 2006 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

The Executive Committee, by consent, approved the September 18, 2006 Executive Committee meeting minutes, including the change noted by Ms. Chavez.

5B. Amendment to the Approved List of Consultants for the MAG ITS/Traffic Engineering/Transportation Safety On-Call Services

The Executive Committee, by consent, approved an amendment that would add Works Consulting and HDR, Inc. to the approved list of consultants qualified to carry out Traffic Engineering projects under the MAG ITS/Traffic Engineering, Transportation Safety On-Call services. The FY 2007 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget, approved by the MAG Regional Council in May 2006, includes projects to be launched in the areas of Intelligent Transportation

Systems (ITS), Traffic Engineering and Transportation Safety. Approximately 21 projects, in nine areas of technical expertise, will be carried out using a list of On-Call consultants that are qualified in each area of technical expertise. This list of On-Call consultants was approved by the Regional Council Executive Committee at its meeting on February 13, 2006. The MAG ITS Committee, at its January 4, 2006 meeting, had recommended ten consultants for the Traffic Engineering area of expertise. However, the list of recommended consultants that was provided for subsequent Management Committee and Executive Committee consideration had inadvertently left out two firms that ranked at #9 and #10 in the area of Traffic Engineering. The approved list of On-Call consultants needs to be amended to include these two firms. This item was recommended for approval by the MAG Management Committee at the October 4, 2006 meeting.

5C. Consultant Selection for the MAG Commuter Rail Strategic Plan

The Executive Committee, by consent, approved the selection of URS Corporation to develop the MAG Commuter Rail Strategic Plan for an amount not to exceed \$300,000. The FY 2007 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget, approved by the MAG Regional Council in May 2006, includes funding to develop a Commuter Rail Strategic Plan for the MAG urbanized area. Key tasks include conducting a SWOT Analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) and developing a strategic implementation plan. MAG issued a Request for Qualifications on July 14, 2006, and received three responses. A multi-agency evaluation team reviewed the Statements of Qualifications and conducted consultant interviews. The evaluation team recommended to MAG that URS Corporation be selected to develop the Commuter Rail Strategic Plan for an amount not to exceed \$300,000. This item was recommended for approval by the MAG Management Committee at the October 4, 2006 meeting.

5D. Bicycle and Pedestrian Design Assistance On-Call Consultant List

The Executive Committee, by consent, approved the selection of the following consultants for the Bicycle and Pedestrian Design On-Call Consultant List: A Dye Design; e group; HDR Engineering, Inc.; J2 Engineering and Environmental Design; Otak; and Sherman Group, Inc. The FY 2007 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget, approved by the MAG Regional Council in May 2006, includes \$200,000 for the Pedestrian Design Assistance Program and \$300,000 for the Bicycle/Shared-Use Design Assistance Program. The Bicycle and Pedestrian Design On-Call Consultant List provides member agencies with a pre-approved consultant list to provide assistance for their design project. A request for consultants to submit Statements of Qualifications was sent out in early July and submittals were received at MAG on July 31, 2006. A multi-agency evaluation team reviewed the applications and recommended to MAG that A Dye Design; e group; HDR Engineering, Inc.; J2 Engineering and Environmental Design; Otak; and Sherman Group, Inc. be selected for the Bicycle and Pedestrian Design On-Call Consultant List. On September 19, 2006, the MAG Bicycle Task Force and the MAG Pedestrian Working Group recommended the selection of the consultant list. This item was recommended for approval by the MAG Management Committee at the October 4, 2006 meeting.

5E. Amendments to the FY 2007 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget and the Regional Public Transportation Authority Regional Rideshare Program Contract

The Executive Committee, by consent, approved amending the FY 2007 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget and the Federal FY 2007 Regional Public Transportation Authority Regional Rideshare Program Contract to add \$47,346.63. The FY 2007 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget includes \$594,000 in consultant funding for the Regional Public Transportation Authority Regional Rideshare Program. The Regional Public Transportation Authority has indicated that \$47,346.63 will be remaining on the Federal FY 2006 Regional Rideshare Program Contract due to a timing issue with manufacturing and installing the Rideshare/Transit Info, Call 511 freeway signs. To complete this project in Federal FY 2007, it is necessary to amend the FY 2007 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget and the Federal FY 2007 Regional Rideshare Program Contract to add the \$47,346.63. This would revise the total funding for the Federal FY 2007 Regional Rideshare Program Contract to \$641,346.63. This item was recommended for approval by the MAG Management Committee at the October 4, 2006 meeting.

5F. Consultant Selection for Digital Aerial Photography

The Executive Committee, by consent, approved the selection of Aerials Express to provide digital aerial photography in an amount not to exceed \$35,000 plus applicable tax. In May 2006, the MAG Regional Council approved the FY 2007 Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget, which included \$85,000 for digital aerial photography. As in past years, this photography has been made available at no charge to MAG member agencies. MAG issued an Invitation for Bids and on September 15, 2006 received two bids to provide this product, from Aerials Express and AirPhotoUSA. A multi jurisdictional evaluation team reviewed the bids, and recommended to MAG the lower bid of \$35,000 plus tax from Aerials Express be selected. The MAG Executive Committee is requested to approve Aerials Express to provide digital aerial photography in an amount not to exceed \$35,000 plus applicable tax.

5G. Approval to Amend the FY 2007 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget for MAG Air Quality Technical Consultant Assistance

The Executive Committee, by consent, approved amending the FY 2007 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to include an associate contract for air quality technical assistance services for an amount not to exceed \$70,000. At previous MAG Regional Council Executive Committee meetings, the need for transportation and air quality modeling expertise has been discussed. On October 14, 2006, Cathy Arthur, the Air Quality Modeling Program Manager, will be retiring. Due to the complexity of the tasks performed by Ms. Arthur, it is being recommended that MAG continue to receive technical consulting assistance from her on an as-needed basis. Ms. Arthur has extensive experience with the MAG air quality models and will assist with the transition to a new modeling manager. Ms. Arthur will also assist in preparing the MAG Eight-Hour Ozone Plan, due to EPA in June 2007, and the MAG Five Percent Plan for PM-10, due to EPA in December 2007. Ms. Arthur will continue to provide technical assistance with the MAG Silt Loading Study and PM-10 Source Attribution and Deposition Study, transportation conformity analyses, and evaluation of congestion mitigation and air quality improvement projects. The proposed contract with Ms. Arthur would be for an amount not to exceed \$70,000. If approved, MAG federal funds would be allocated for this purpose.

5H. Amendment to the FY 2007 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to Include the Grand Avenue Study for Access Management

The Executive Committee, by consent, approved amending the MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to include the Grand Avenue Study for access management as a MAG project with \$500,000 of federal funds and the City of Surprise providing \$38,000 for a project not to exceed \$538,000. In June 2005, the MAG Regional Council approved projects to close out the 2005 fiscal year. One of these projects was a City of Surprise project for a Grand Avenue study for \$500,000. Inadvertently, the funds were not obligated in FY 2005. Therefore, the funds were carried forward in the MAG account at the Arizona Department of Transportation. Since that time, the closeout for FY 2006 occurred. Since the closeout, additional funds have been received in the MAG account that are sufficient to provide the funding for this study. The purpose of the study is to assist in controlling access on Grand Avenue between SR-303L and SR-74. To implement/obligate the project, it needs to be included in the FY 2007 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget. Working with the City of Surprise, it has been agreed that the project be managed by MAG with a stakeholders group guiding the effort. The City of Surprise has also agreed to provide \$38,000 for the project for a total not to exceed \$538,000.

6. Transportation Update

Mr. Smith stated that a Regional Planning Dialogue meeting has been scheduled as a followup to the meeting on August 22, 2006. He said that at that meeting, it was requested that the Chairs and Directors of the Regional Councils and Metropolitan Planning Organizations have a meeting. Mr. Smith said that the meeting is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. on October 27, 2006 at the Doubletree Guest Suites in Phoenix, prior to the League of Arizona Cities and Towns Executive Committee meeting and at the same time as the Resolutions Committee.

Mr. Smith stated that at the August meeting, staff were directed to bring in business partners and legislative staff to discuss ideas such as indexing the gas tax, regional transportation districts, and tolling legislation. Mr. Smith stated that legislative staff are working on the indexing item. He said that there is a variety of ways to proceed on transportation districts, and staff is still collecting information on this. Mr. Smith remarked that the idea is if you do not have funding in developing areas, how do you give incentives to the development community to donate right-of-way to build an interim road that would become a state highway.

Mr. Smith stated that MAG obtained a tolling statute from Utah and is discussing it with ADOT. He noted that the gift clause in the Arizona Constitution does not allow the existing statutes to work. Mr. Smith stated that ADOT would need to be put in the primary position with any private sector participation.

Mr. Smith stated that these issues have been discussed at Executive Committee, but also need to be brought to the full Regional Council. He said there are some sensitive issues with the indexing and tolling and elections are coming up soon. He added that other ideas include working with neighboring states on I-10.

Matt Clark, MAG Senior Policy Planner, provided an update on the River of Trade Corridor Coalition (ROTCC). He said that he had spoken with the ROTCC Chair on October 5th and asked if ROTCC had spoken to the staff of the new Transportation Secretary, Mary Peters. Mr. Clark remarked that they had indicated that they had not, but had spoken to the USDOT staff. He said it appears the USDOT is moving ahead on its strategy to reduce congestion. Mr. Clark said that he also discussed with ROTCC its position on earmarking. He said that they indicated they will support what the federal government determines is the portion of the corridor with the most outstanding need. Mr. Clark stated that the ROTCC will ask state delegations to support what the federal government deems important.

Mr. Clark stated that MAG was asked to fill out a survey of its needs along the ROTCC corridor. He noted that the survey, along with maps of freight rail corridors, was completed and sent Friday. Mr. Clark stated that he explained that MAG's portion of federal funds is locked into the 20-year Regional Transportation Plan, and asked ROTCC if they secured federal earmarks would they be asking for above the line or below the line funding. Mr. Clark said that he explained that we would be at a tremendous disadvantage if they earmarked funds that were already committed in the Regional Transportation Plan. He indicated that they appeared not to understand the difference between above the line and below the line funding, and are not enthusiastic about getting to this level of discussion while lobbying. Mr. Clark said that ROTCC reiterated the invitation to MAG to become a member, which would entail hosting a quarterly meeting, lobbying federal and state legislators on ROTCC goals, and recruiting public and private organizations to become members. Mr. Smith commented that potentially there could be discussion of ROTCC with other COGs.

Vice Chair Manross said that she had recently visited Florida for a transportation meeting and brought back information on the Alameda corridor. We are trying to change how we operate to be more coordinated with other states and discussing the impact of different organizations to move concepts to reality. Vice Chair Manross stated that she thought there is a shift to get things done. She commented that perhaps we might be able to get the attention of Mary Peters and her staff. Vice Chair Manross remarked that the ROTCC project in the Alameda corridor seems quite important to them. Mr. Smith added that another big picture idea is connecting Las Vegas and Phoenix, which are two of the fastest growing urbanized areas in the country and there is no freeway connecting them.

Eric Anderson, MAG Transportation Director, stated that House Bill 2865 created the Statewide Transportation Acceleration Needs (STAN) account. He said that the STAN account provides \$307 million statewide to be used for the acceleration of the construction or reconstruction of freeways, state highways, bridges, and interchanges. Mr. Anderson advised that the Maricopa County region will receive \$184.2 million from the fund. He stated that MAG is working with ADOT on the project delivery issues to understand which projects are ready to proceed.

Mr. Anderson stated that projects fall into three categories: The first category includes those projects that cannot be accelerated because they are already in the final stages and are ready to go to bid this year or next.

Mayor Shafer commented that the Loop 303 project is ready to proceed. She said that it is only fair that this project be accelerated; it has been in the plan for 20 years and there is no freeway in their area. Mayor Shafer remarked that the West Valley did not receive a fair share of the first 20 years of the tax, although she did not feel bad that the East Valley benefitted because she enjoys using

those roads. She stated that the City of Surprise has only two ways for ingress and egress and they need more to get people in and out.

Mr. Anderson stated that the second category includes projects that are not ready to be accelerated because they are in the engineering stage. He noted as an example, the I-10 Collector Distributor EIS, which will not be completed for 18 to 24 months.

Mr. Anderson stated that the third category includes projects that have potential to be accelerated, such as those that have completed the environmental process or have some level of design concept report available. Mr. Anderson noted the inventory of projects that fit in this category:

- I-10 to the west from the 303 traffic interchange to SR-85 has been cleared environmentally. ADOT has indicated a general purpose lane can be added from the Loop 303 interchange to either Watson Road or to SR-85.
- I-17 north of Carefree Highway. The section of I-17 from Loop 101 to the Carefree Highway is scheduled for construction late this fiscal year or next year. The section north of the Carefree Highway to New River has been cleared environmentally. Another general purpose lane could be added to Anthem or to New River Road.
- I-10 to the south, from the Santan to Riggs Road. Mr. Anderson stated that the negotiations with the Gila River Indian Community have not proceeded far enough to begin environmental work, so this is not a candidate for STAN funding at this time.
- Loop 303. The traffic analysis is being run and costs verified.
- Loop 101. Close the gap from Tatum Boulevard to Princess Drive, which will be created when HOV lanes are added in FY 2007. The HOV lanes planned on SR-51 will go onto Loop 101 and stop at Tatum. HOV lanes from Princess to Loop 202 are scheduled for construction this fiscal year.
- HOV lanes in Chandler from Baseline to the Santan are currently a 2010 project. The final design concept report is finished.
- Red Mountain HOV project from Loop 101 to Gilbert Road is currently in scoping.

Mr. Anderson stated that other items mentioned were augmenting money for right-of-way in new corridors, for example, Loop 303, the I-10 Reliever, and Williams Gateway; and to advance other engineering studies to increase the inventory of projects that will be ready to proceed.

Vice Chair Manross asked for clarification of the date when MAG would need to report to the House and Senate. Mr. Anderson replied that MAG is required to report on activities related to the STAN account to the House and Senate by December 15, 2006. He added that the law does not require a recommendation on projects by that date; however, the thought is that people would like to know MAG's decision. Mr. Anderson stated that the next TPC meeting is November 15, 2006

and the Regional Council meeting is December 13, 2006. If a recommendation is made by that date, it could be reported to the House and the Senate.

Mayor Shafer commented on the high fatality rate on the 303.

Vice Chair Manross asked if the list of advance engineering work had been scrutinized to see those likely to be included. Mr. Anderson replied that it had not yet been done.

Mayor Hawker asked if the legislative intent was known. Mr. Anderson stated that the way the bill was written puts the responsibility of making recommendations on MAG to the State Transportation Board, which can accept or change the recommendations. He added that TIP and Plan amendments might be needed for changes. Mr. Anderson said that as far as legislative intent, there were a couple of bills run last session that provided funding—one for I-10 west and one for I-17. In discussion with legislators and legislative staff, the point was made that earmarking was not the best planning process and that should rest with the MAG Regional Council. Mr. Anderson noted that the bills were not heard and the money was put into the budget to accelerate projects statewide, including projects in this region. Mr. Anderson commented that individual legislators could probably provide their views.

Mayor Hawker commented that he assumed the projects would need to be standalone projects and work with the system; for example, to construct only two miles of HOV lanes when three miles would be needed for continuity. Mr. Anderson stated that ADOT is looking for the serviceability of improvements and we do not want to do a portion that would not connect to the rest of the system. He stated that problems also can be created by dumping traffic onto an unprepared system; this is called ‘end of freeway condition.’

Mayor Hawker asked about right-of-way to be acquired for the 303. Mr. Anderson replied that staff are still working with ADOT on that. He added that the sections were reviewed and a report is being prepared.

Vice Chair Manross asked when information on right-of-way and advance engineering might be ready. Mr. Anderson replied that more information is becoming available every day and ADOT would probably be providing it this week.

7. Greater Dallas Planning Council Visit

Kelly Taft, MAG Communications Manager, reported on the upcoming visit by representatives from the Greater Dallas Planning Council (GDPC) in November. The GDPC is made up of elected officials and business leaders from the greater Dallas region. Ms. Taft stated that the group will be visiting MAG to gather information and exchange ideas and best practices regarding growth and its challenges. Ms. Taft passed out a draft agenda and noted that the details are being finalized. She expressed her thanks to the Cities of Glendale, Phoenix, Scottsdale, and Tempe, and to METRO for hosting the events. Ms. Taft then reviewed the planned schedule of events for the three-day visit. Ms. Taft stated that this visit also provides our region with the opportunity to reciprocate the hospitality that we received when our elected officials visited Dallas in September 2003.

Mayor Shafer complimented Ms. Taft on putting together such a good program. She suggested that a visit to the stadium in Surprise would be appropriate because their baseball team, the Texas Rangers, has spring training there. Mayor Shafer offered to provide picture postcards of the facility for the GDPC visitors.

8. Adjournment

The Executive Committee meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

Chair

Secretary